

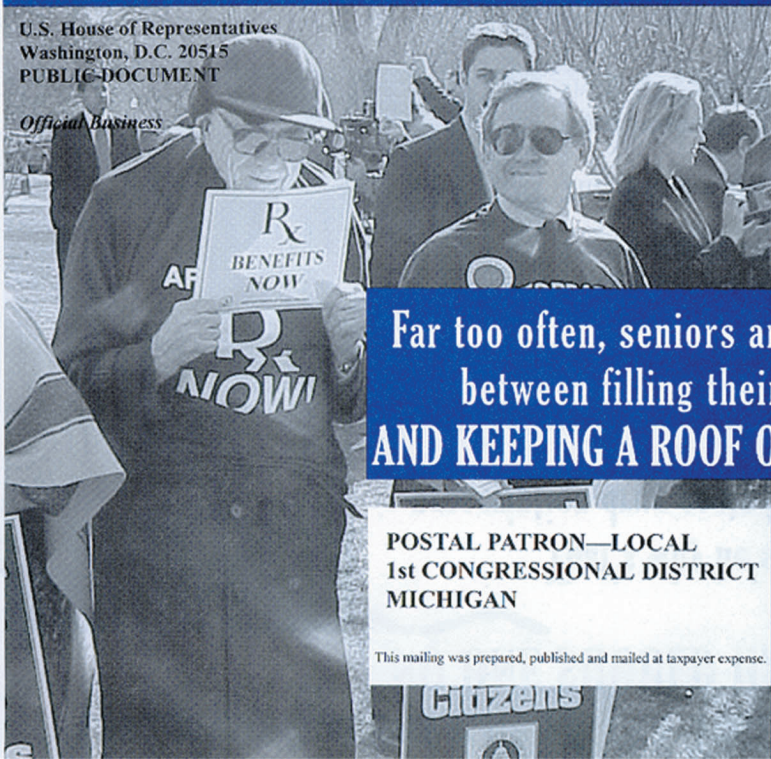
**Important information from Congressman Bart Stupak
for northern Michigan residents on prescription drug
proposals being considered by Congress.**

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Official Business

Bart Stupak

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**Far too often, seniors are forced to choose
between filling their prescriptions
AND KEEPING A ROOF OVER THEIR HEADS.**

**POSTAL PATRON—LOCAL
1st CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
MICHIGAN**

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CITIZENS

CONGRESSMAN BART STUPAK BELIEVES THAT'S A CHOICE NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO MAKE.

That's why he's fighting to reduce prescription drug costs for senior citizens.

Seniors are often forced to choose between filling their prescriptions, putting a roof over their heads and having a meal on the table.

Congressman Stupak believes that's a choice no one should be forced to make.

The facts are alarming.

Congressman Stupak's office completed a study that shows seniors pay, on average, 98 percent more for their prescription drugs than the pharmaceutical industry's favored customers, including large HMOs and even our own Veterans Administration. As the accompanying chart demonstrates, favored customers are able to negotiate a better price for their medications, because they are able to utilize the power

of a large purchasing pool.

To fix the problem, Congressman Stupak, a member of the Prescription Drug Fairness Task Force in the Democratic Caucus, has cosponsored H.R. 664, legislation that would create a similarly large purchasing pool throughout Medicare to help reduce the costs of prescription drugs for seniors by 40-50 percent.

Prescription Drug	Use	Favored Customer	1st District Seniors	% More You Pay
Zocor	Cholesterol	\$42.95	\$100.33	134%
Norvasc	High Blood Pressure	\$58.83	\$108.50	84%
Prilosec	Ulcers	\$56.38	\$105.27	87%
Procardia XL	Heart Problems	\$67.35	\$120.70	79%
Zoloft	Depression	\$123.88	\$205.02	65%

With passage of H.R. 664, seniors will no longer have to foot the bill of the large pharmaceutical industries' multi-billion dollar mega-mergers and multi-million dollar ad campaigns. They will simply be able to afford the very life-saving medications they so very much are entitled to.

TO CONTACT
CONGRESSMAN STUPAK

2348 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515 - (202) 225-4735

In Michigan:
1-800-950-REPI